OCEAN MAIL SERVICE.

LETTER

FROM

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

COMMUNICATING

An estimate for the ocean mail service.

DECEMBER 21, 1854.—Referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

Post Office Department, December 21, 1854.

Sir: Pursuant to the provisions of the 2d section of the act changing the organization of the Post Office Department, approved July 2, 1836, I have the honor to submit an estimate for the ocean mail service, payable out of the revenue of this department, for the year commencing July 1, 1855:

For transportation of the mail in two steamships from New York, by Southampton, to Bremen, under the contract with the Ocean Steam Navigation Company, of New York, at \$100,000 a year for each ship......\$200,000 For transportation of the mails in two steamships from New

For transportation of the mails between Charleston and Havana, a sum not exceeding. 50,000

For transportation of the mails across the isthmus of Panama 150,000

550,000

The contract with M. C. Mordecai for the transportation of the mail between Charleston and Havana, at \$50,000 per annum, will expire on the 30th of June next; but as that contract was made under the special sanction of Congress, I have estimated for the continuance of service on that line, intending to advertise it with the routes to be let to contract in the southern section in April next.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES CAMPBELL, Postmaster General.

Hon. LINN BOYD, Speaker House of Reps.